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MONTEREY NEWS

February, 1981

O U R T O W N

Monterey Citizens Meet with Members of the Community Land Trust in the Southern Berkshires

A meeting was held at the United Church of Christ last December to discuss the advantages and possibilities of a Community Land Trust in Monterey. Steven Leining, president of the Community Land Trust in the Southern Berkshires and Robert Swann, board member, spoke of how their organization had been fromed in order to achieve several aims. They outlined those aims as follows:

- to preserve open space and farmland as well as forestland in the southern region of the Berkshires.
- to provide access to land for farming among younger families, for whom the cost of land has become too high for purchase.
- to reduce the cost of land for housing as well as farming and thus make lower cost housing available for young families - many of whom find it impossible to build in this part of the Berkshires.

In order to accomplish these goals the CLT in the S. Berkshires has begun purchase of a ten acre tract in Egremont and has an option to purchase another 90 acres of contiguous land. It hopes to demonstrate on this tract how the above goals can be simultaneously accomplished. Eventually, its plans call for no more than twenty houses on this total 100 acre tract - an average density of 5 acres per house. The houses, however, will be located in areas of the land least desirable for farming and minimally obtrusive on open space and forestland.

Through purchase of the large tract at a reasonable price from land owners sympathetic to its purposes, the CLT is in a position to offer housing sites at a reasonable price, but, nevertheless high enough to cover the entire purchase price. As a non-profit organization the CLT is in position to offer a farm family the opportunity to farm the remaining open land (about 50 acres) without the necessity for purchase. It does so through offering a long term lease to the farm family. A young family has already agreed to begin renovation of the fifty year old apple orchard on the 10 acres held by the CLT and plans are being drawn up for further use of the land.

This lease method is also being used for those families planning to build houses. Thus, rather than having to pay for the land out of pocket, families can use their savings to begin building immediately after signing a long term (199 years) renewable and inheritable lease. Payments for the land will then be made out of the monthly lease fees received by the CLT.

Members of the CLT in the Southern Berkshires believe that only by such innovative methods can farmland and house sites be made available to many families in today's high cost of land world.

Fire Department News: New Fire Truck Home for Good/Money for New House

Fire Chief Ray Tryon reports that the new fire truck, which put in a brief and splendid appearance at the two Energy Contest parades in October has arrived for good and is in service. Happily there have been no calls so far for the new equipment. According to Ray, following the drought conditions of the past year, there are only two places in town to get water for firefighting. The new truck carries substantial amounts of water and therefore is particularly welcome this winter.

Although formal notification is still forthcoming, word from the State Energy Office is that $22,700 has been granted for "solar components" for the new firehouse. Plans for the new building are still in stages of planning and revision.

Senator's Newsletter Cites Monterey

In the December 1980 newsletter from Senator Paul Tsongas there is a report on communities in Massachusetts which are taking measures "to survive energy shocks and to gain a measure of economic stability and security." The town of Monterey is cited for its efforts in the recent International Energy Contest and there is included a photograph taken by Sandisfield resident Jane McWhorter of townspeople assembled

(continued on next page)

CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Mass Schedule Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield, Sat. 5:30 PM; Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM. Immaculate Conception, Mill River, Sunday 10:00 AM.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 AM for the Winter months in the Social Room. Childcare each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Meditation and prayer for the community, inviting all who wish to join us, each Thursday, 7:30 A.M. in the Social Room. Prayer Group each Thursday 7:45 P.M. at the home of Lucy Smith.

Lenten Breakfast Study The Parish Council is planning for a Lenten study program each week of Lent that will take place at the breakfast hour. It is anticipated that the theme of the study will revolve around the Christian's journey inward and outward. The inward journey will be concerned with prayer, contemplation and meditation and the outward journey will concern the taking of one's faith into the world. Further details will soon be announced by the committee planning the Lenten event. Those on the committee are Mary Ward, Ann Williams, Marcia Stucklen, David Bach, and Will Friedman.

Small Church Convocation The Small Church Task Force of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ is planning a small Church Convocation on Saturday March 28 in Sunderland. The purpose is to celebrate the special qualities that the small church has to give and to work around ways of solving the difficulties that small churches often experience. Details of the convocation will be given in the March Monterey News. Dr. Brallier is a member of the Small Church Task force.

The Prayer Group Much can be and has been accomplished by simple, earnest, humble, heartfelt prayer. Prayers should not be taken lightly. Many are much more powerful than we give them credit for. We are currently holding a prayer meeting Thursday nights 7:45 at Lucy Smiths. We have had many answers to prayer, and many seemingly unanswered ones. However God deals with each one in his own way. He moves in mysterious ways his miracles to perform.

A big percentage of the Bible deals with healing in many ways. Volumes have been and are being written about authentic healings that have occurred and are occuring now. There are books in the church on healing that are available to anyone interested. If nearly half the Bible deals with healing I believe that a like portion of our services should deal with healing also. So much prayer is needed not only for ourselves, our families and friends but also for others in the community and for the world. "Where two or more are gathered together in my name there I will be also", Jesus said. However, the more cylinders in an engine the more horsepower. The more people gathered together for prayer the greater the prayer power. It is a proven fact!

We are not an exclusive club - no dues, no entry fees. Everyone in our community and who ever is interested is invited to come to our prayer meetings to pray for their own needs, or for whatever their deepest concern may be. If not able to attend, please call 528-2204, or 528-1031 and let us know your prayer needs!

I hope and pray you will join us,

Hadley Simons
For the Prayer Group

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONSCIOUSNESS

Healing and worship service at the Center of the Light in the barn at 7:00 PM every third Sunday of the month. Next service is March 15. All are welcome to join.

On all other Sundays of the month, there will be silent meditation at 6:15 in the Yellow saltbox house at the Center of the Light in New Marlboro. The meditations last 45 minutes and offer an opportunity to those who want to practice their own froms of silent meditation in a group.

For information about the church or directions, call 229-2396.

COMMUNITY SEMINARS

The Counseling and Human Potential Center is presenting a series of monthly seminars. They are free and are held at the center at 251 Main St., Gt. Barrington. On Friday, February 27, Virgil Brallier will speak about "Self-worth: arena for personality development". Please call 528-9637 if you wish to attend.

John Donne, an English poet who bridged the 16th and 17th centuries, observed that we humans are bound together much more closely than we commonly suppose. He said that if a clod were washed into the sea there was a loss to the mainland as surely as if a whole promontory were. In the same poem he referred to the practice of tolling the church bells at the death of a citizen. He suggested that if one should hear the bell tolling do not send to ask for whom it tolls, "It tolls for thee."

Perhaps Donne's vision seemed extreme for his time. Yes, and there may be those who think it is extreme for our time. Yet the heavy weight of history's unfolding is leaning more and more powerfully toward Donne's view. We are bound together in the bundle of life. We know well that happenings in Iran enter very deeply into the life-stream of America. And decisions made in Washington send reverbrations into all the various hamlets of the world. Right now it is clear that the decision to sharply increase military spending in America is most certainly going to tip the whole world toward increasing its attention to military hardware. We do nothing just with ourselves. If America has a knee jerk the whole body of the world has a tremor go through it.

How can we begin to really live with the fact that no one is an island? Our national style is largely run on the notion that one person's loss is another's gain. Millions of dollars are spent by special interest groups trying to promote legislation that will favor them. The thought is "we want all we can get" with little thought of how it will serve the general welfare. Under such a style those with position and power gain advantage but they do it at the expense of the whole body.

Is not the time coming, is not the time here when we need to feel more keenly our loss when another suffers loss? Most of us react quickly when our own children are hurt. What is to stop us from similar feelings when our neighbor's child is hurt? If my neighbor is hungry should not I learn to feel hunger pangs for him?

If my neighbor is unemployed is not that my pain, too?

Let's be honest. Of course, I'm slower to feel the pain when my neighbor's child is hurt than when my own is. But if I truly stand with my neighbor it is not long until the injury his child has received is also very real to me. So, how do we get by, not feeling the neighbor's pain? We wear insulators. We maintain a certain distance. We hold back feeling by various types of insulation.

What would happen if we were less busy keeping up our insulators and learned to freely take into ourselves the pain and suffering around us? How much more ready we would be to share. And how much more really human we would be. Whether we realize it or not the real price we pay for keeping ourselves insulated from the hurt and pain of the world around us is that we reduce our humanity. We make ourselves less than real by this frantic need to keep the world's pain out of our own heart.

The great benefactors, yes, the great healers of the world's wounds are those who have entered the mainstream of humanity. They have not been afraid that the pain would overwhelm them. They have not counted their resources as private wealth just to be used for their own pleasure. Those who approach the world with open hands and open hearts have an uncanny way of bringing healing wherever they go. Those whose main concern is to stay nicely insulated, separated from the mainstream turn out to lose the true qualities of being human.

The indications are that we are moving into a period in which the pains and disorders of our society are going to become more evident. The level of human pain is most likely going to increase. It may be a good time for us to be asking how we intend to position ourselves. Many there are who will start building walls to try to shut out the pain.

Somehow I believe that there is a growing longing to be human in a way that really matters. I expect that increasing numbers are not going to shut themselves away from their neighbor's hurt and pain. Of course, there will be the old familiar patterns of selfishness and insulation continuing. But the sign of hope I really believe we are going to witness is a new form of community life in which people <u>believe</u> and <u>act</u> as if no one is an island. As this happens our understanding of the true dimensions of our humanity will truly be set forward.

Virgil V. Brallier, minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

ances as "Miss Eleanor," died February 8th at the age of 96 at Edgecombe Nursing Home in Lenox where she had been for the last few months. She was the only surviving member of her immediate family, the children of William Goodyear, son of Charles Goodyear, the inventor, and himself curator of the Brooklyn, NY Museum of Art. Her nearest living relatives are two nieces, Mrs. Vivian Dewey of Chanute, Kansas, and Mrs. Elizabeth Earle Anastasio, who now makes her home at Gould Farm most of the year but is wintering in Florida; and a nephew, Nelson Goodyear of Huntington Beach, California.

Eleanor Goodyear was a first cousin of Agnes Goodyear Gould and of Caroline Goodyear. She came to Gould Farm in November 1913 with the original group of relatives and guests when William and Agnes Gould first settled in Monterey. For the remainder of her long life, she identified herself with the Farm, assisting in its management while William Gould lived and also when Agnes Gould became its leader. She was for many years deeply interested in the Camps Farthest Out, attending meetings in this country and also in England. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Monterey. A memorial service will be held at Gould Farm on Sunday, Feb. 22nd at 2 PM.

Sherif Elamir came to Gould Farm recently from his home in Alexandria, Egypt. He was interested in working with people who had various kinds of problems and when he heard of the Farm through the organization, Laos, he decided to come here. We have had other staff members through Laos, presently Herbert Otter from Frankfurt and for several months, Dugald Wilson from Wellington, New Zealand. Sherif plans to stay about a year.

Steve Tanguay, who joined the staff this month, graduated in 1980 from Linden State College in northern Vermont. Recently he returned to Gt. Barrington, where he had previously lived. He saw in the Berkshire Eagle an advertisement for help in the Gould Farm kitchen, applied for the job, as he has previously worked in that field, tried out for a few days and is now the kitchen manager. He is in charge of all ordering and cooking, which he plans to do for an indefinite period. In his spare time we hope he will sometimes use his musical training and skill for our benefit. He plays a number of stringed instruments.

Kent, Steve and David Smith flew to Eustis, Florida, February 9th for a holiday visit with Mrs. Mildred Smith, Kent's mother. They plan a trip to the Everglades and to Key West.

MONTEREY GRANGE #291

The Monterey Grange met on January 21, Pirate Bingo was enjoyed in charge of the worthy master - John Lossin. The next meeting will be on February 18 for a Home and Community Program in charge of the Committee - the State Representative Cindy Olegny and Pamona chairman, Myrll Merser will be present to outline the work for the year. There will be a Pie Baking Contest for the Brothers. Applications for new members are due - and we would welcome any one to join us. There will be a raffle for the benefit of the grange.

Fraternally,
Mary Wallace, Lecturer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is an expanded example of the many comments we have received along with generous contributions from our readership. An overwhelming majority of the messages read simply, "keep up the good work". We will do that and we are grateful for the encouragement:

January 17, 1981

Dear Ms. Pearson,

I enjoy receiving the "Monterey News". It's like getting a letter from home.

When my husband (now deceased) and I were summer residents we felt so "at home" at the Halstead's cottage, enjoyed attending the Hephzibah Heights Bible Conference, and visiting friends in Monterey and in Sandisfield. I do make visits every now and then to the area.

I'd like to see more news items of the local people.

Thanks to you and your assistants in putting out an interesting and well-written "News".

Elizabeth Lippert
Flushing, NY

(Senator's Newsletter continued)

in front of the United Church of Christ for a town family portrait. Anyone interested in regularly receiving Tsongas' newsletter is invited to send name, address, and zip code to: United States Senate
342 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20810

Yankee Magazine Slide Show

On January 21, Carole Allen of Yankee Magazine came to Monterey to attend a mid-winter community dinner and to show a selection of the slides she took during the three day Energy Contest in October 1980. Such a good crowd assembled for the event that it was decided to have another winter dinner in February. Carole showed her slides chronologically from the first candlelight dinner through a series of crisp shots of girl scouts, kindergartners, horseback riders and townspeople in all capacities to the last soggy morning with everybody wet and unwashed in the church social room and baby Sean O'Conner beaming in Milly's lap. There were several time exposure studies of the prayer service on Lake Garfield in which not only candleflame but also a big low-limbed tree were incandescent in the accumulated moonlight. Another shot taken down route 23 towards the town center about midnight produced equally mystical effects. The town was blue white, the stars shone vividly, and the few kerosene lamps still lit glowed orange through people's windows. The show evoked memories of the contest experience and in addition to that reminded those who saw it of the particular beauty and spirit of the town and people of Monterey.

Attention Senior Citizens

Berkshire Home Care is very concerned that a large number of our county's elderly are refusing fuel assistance and consequently depleting their life savings to pay the astronomical cost of heating their homes. They certainly cannot force people to sign up for the program. What they have done is make it very easy for the elderly to apply for assistance. One telephone call to the local Home Care Office is all that is needed. In Gt. Barrington, 54 Castle Street, phone number 528-9383 An outreach worker will either set up an office visit or a home visit to help the elderly in filling out the application. Berkshire Home Care will then submit the application to the local community action agency and make sure that if the individual qualifies for the program, the individual will receive assistance. The program is ear-marked for the elderly.

Alfred W. Molle', chairman
Monterey Council on Aging

BOY SCOUTS

Cub Scouts: The Cub Scouts have planned a pack meeting for the month of March. Also, during the month of Jan, Mr. Harold Stalker demonstrated the sport of ice-fishing on Lake Buel to both Dens. All members took part in this activity. Presently, the cubs are working on their wolf and bear badges.

GIRL SCOUTS

Brownies: The Brownies resumed their meetings after the Christmas holidays on Jan 22. They took a winter walk and made plans for an ice skating party the following week. On Jan 29, the girls met at the Kalodner pond on the Tyringham Rd. and they had a marvelous time skating. They all enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies when done. On Feb. 5, they began with Valentine preparations. The girls are making "Sweethearts"- heart-shaped pin cushions. It is their first attempt at sewing and they were all very enthusiastic.

Juniors: On January 31, the Juniors attended a basket-weaving and contra-dance workshop in Gt. Barrington. Response from the girls was "great!".

A reminder to everyone that Girl Scouts will be selling cookies between Feb. 14 and March 1. If you haven't been contacted before the end of the sale, call 528-2164, and we will see to it that someone comes to your house.

YOUTH GROUP

The main activity of the Youth Group during the past month was the preparation of their trip to New York City. They plan to go to the city during March or April.

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New Dump Hours

Due to budgetary considerations, the operating schedule of the Town of Monterey Sanitary Landfill has been reduced to 18 hours per week, as follows:
Sun.- Noon-4PM Mon.- 9AM-12Noon Wed.- Noon-4PM Fri.- 1PM-4PM Sat.- 10AM-2PM
Closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

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